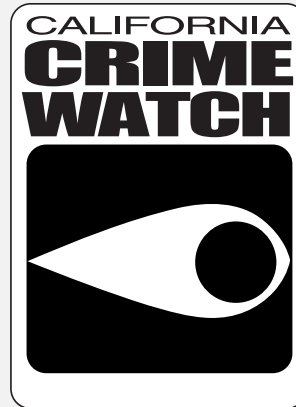


## NEED MORE INFORMATION?

More information about domestic violence is available through your local domestic violence center.



Courtesy of

Office of Criminal Justice Planning  
1130 K Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 324-9100

For more information on this program in your  
community, contact:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
GRAY DAVIS  
GOVERNOR



EVERY  
15 SECONDS  
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HOW CAN  
SOMEONE  
ESCAPE  
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OFFICE OF CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE PLANNING

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
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## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- Every 15 seconds a woman is battered in the United States. Domestic violence can strike any household.
- One third of the homicides in this country are domestic violence related. Domestic violence can be fatal.
- National statistics indicate that as many as 50% of all women in America experience violence in their intimate relationships.  
Domestic violence can happen in any household.
- Besides beatings, battering can involve threats of violence, verbal abuse and/or sexual assault. Domestic violence is not something anyone enjoys or asks for.
- Victims of domestic violence often feel isolated, powerless, fearful, guilty and dependent financially and/or physically. Domestic violence can leave victims feeling trapped and unable to help themselves.
- Children who learn violence at home are at risk to continue the violence in their relationships as adults, either as batterers or as victims. Domestic violence can have long-term effects on children.

- Spousal abuse in California is a crime and a batterer can be sent to prison. Domestic violence is intolerable and must stop.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTERS CAN HELP VICTIMS

If you are battered, your local domestic violence program can provide you and your children with emergency shelter and services.

In addition to finding a safe place, you may want to:

- call your local law enforcement agency to report the batterer.
- obtain medical help if you are injured.
- file a temporary restraining order against the batterer.

Counselors with your local domestic violence program can help you understand your rights and help you determine the options most appropriate for you.

## SERVICES YOU CAN GET

Domestic violence centers provide numerous services. Among them are:

- **24-Hour Crisis Hotline** Support is as near as your telephone. 24-hours-a-day, seven days-a-week, you can call your local domestic violence hotline for emergency services.
- **Counseling for you and your children**  
Individual and group counseling are available.
- **Emergency shelter**  
You and your children will be provided with a safe environment
- **Emergency food and clothing**  
Food and clothing will be made available in emergency situations.
- **Legal assistance**  
If you fear for your safety because of domestic violence, you can file for a temporary restraining order. Centers will assist with the preparation and filing of this form and may provide other legal assistance
- **Advocacy and accompaniment**  
Assistance is provided to help you deal with the appropriate agencies and get the services you need.